

ANOTHER DEAD MAN PUZZLE.

BRUISE ON KRATTINGER'S HEAD; HIS \$1,300 PIN GONE.

Gas Was Turned On in the Accountant's Room in Suesen's Hotel, but Transom Was Open—Registry Altered—'Look After Me, Jack,' on a Slip of Paper.

A maid at Suesen's Hotel, Sixth avenue and Fifty-sixth street, smelled gas on the second floor yesterday morning about 9 o'clock. She had been on the floor earlier in the morning, but didn't remember smelling gas then.

Herman Suesen, who runs the hotel, which is pretty well known around that section of the West Side, went up in a hurry. He tried the door, found it locked and broke it down. On the bed, undressed, was the body of Alfred Krattinger, an expert accountant who lived with his wife, his father and his brothers at 438 West Fifty-second street.

Krattinger apparently had died of asphyxiation. At first glance everything indicated that the man had taken his own life. The body lay in a natural position on the bed, the features were composed, gas escaping from a wall jet filled the room and there were no signs of violence. It appeared to be a commonplace suicide, such as Coroners handle a dozen times a week.

Coroner Scholer and detectives from the West Forty-seventh street station got to the hotel about 11 o'clock with Krattinger's brothers, William and Joseph, and his father. They made a systematic examination of the body and the room and began to discover things that set them thinking.

It was observed that the transom of the room was half open, the flashlight set at an angle. The experience of the police in suicides from poisoning includes few cases where a man set about deliberately to asphyxiate himself and left the transom open. The window of the room opening on Sixth avenue was shut, but not locked. The doorkey was broken. Half remained in the lock and half lay on the floor near the door.

When the Coroner came to examine the body closely he noticed that the face was not blackened or discolored, as frequently happens in asphyxiation cases. Then he saw a large bruise just over the right ear, near the temple. It was such a contusion as might have been caused by a hard fall or a blow from a heavy stick or a blunt weapon. The Coroner couldn't determine from cursory examination whether the skull was fractured. That will be determined to-day by Dr. Weston, the Coroner's physician.

Krattinger's brothers told the Coroner that there should be found on the body a diamond pin, worth \$1,000, and a considerable amount of cash which the accountant knew to have carried in a wallet. Scholer went through the pockets of Krattinger's clothes—the coat, trousers and undergarments were lying on a chair in orderly arrangement—but the diamond pin was not there. Neither was the wallet nor Krattinger's watch and chain nor loose silver. The only thing the Coroner found in the pockets was a cheap pocketknife, worth, at a large valuation, 50 cents.

On the top of the dresser lay a slip of paper on which was scrawled in a hand not Krattinger's, his family are sure, this line: "Look after me, Jack." The words were so arranged that the Coroner couldn't tell whether the injunction was intended for a man named Jack or whether Jack was the signature of the note.

"Very probably," said the Coroner afterward, "the note had nothing to do with the case." By the time the examination of the body and the room was finished it was observed that there was little odor of gas in the room, the smell having disappeared in about twenty minutes. This was considered rather peculiar, because when enough gas has escaped to kill a man the scent hangs on and is apparent about the room for twelve hours, perhaps much longer.

Downstairs in the hotel office the Coroner discovered another odd circumstance. Krattinger's entry on the hotel register had been altered. He came to the hotel, it was said, at about 4:30 o'clock yesterday morning. The time indicated on the register had been scratched out and "4:25 M., Saturday," substituted. Concerning this the hotel people knew nothing. They had made no change, they said.

Then the father and brothers of young Krattinger told Coroner Scholer they were positive the accountant had been murdered in his room early yesterday morning for his money and pin, and that the thief and murderer had escaped by the Sixth avenue window after arranging the body neatly and turning on the gas to create the impression that Krattinger had committed suicide.

The brothers had this to say: "Alfred was a public accountant who worked by fits and starts, as such men do usually, getting good money for a job and then laying off until another turned up. Until four days ago he had been going over the books of a market opposite our house, laboring day and night on them. When he finished up he was tired and went for a little enjoyment. He was accustomed to going to Suesen's Hotel, where he was so well known that his comings and goings were not particularly noticed. Usually he occupied the same room."

"When he left home he wore a diamond pin worth \$1,000 and had in his wallet \$350 in cash, besides a smaller sum for spending money, and a watch and chain. He had, besides, a few other small articles of jewelry. He was accustomed to drink a little, but was never in the habit of squandering a lot of money on a spree."

"He was undoubtedly murdered for three valuables. The murderer might have been one who met him Saturday night, observed the pin and noted that he had a good deal of cash about him. Whoever it was no doubt went to the room early this morning, either with him or after he had entered and got to sleep. From the bruise on his temple it looks as if he was killed with a club, probably a blackjack. He might have been stunned only and then killed by the escaping gas. Alfred was not the man to spend \$350 or pawn the diamond pin."

No pawn tickets were found on the body. A wide stone ledge runs across the Sixth avenue side of the hotel at the second floor. Krattinger's family believe that the murderer escaped by the front window of the room, walked along the ledge to the room adjoining, which was unoccupied, and then got away either by going to the roof of the hotel or walking out boldly through the front door. The hotel office is not

STARVING IN WRECKED TOWNS.

ITALY RUSHES AID TO THE MANY EARTHQUAKE VICTIMS.

King Goes Himself to Devastated District and Gives Fund for Relief—Dead and Injured Number Several Thousands—Many Towns Only a Mass of Ruins.

Rome, Sept. 10.—News from the South continues to be most distressing, but it is still confused and contradictory. It is impossible to sum up accurately the number of lives lost, the number of injured or the amount of damage done, but it is already clear that the catastrophe has been appalling. It is believed that it is greater than that of 1894.

Yesterday the number of dead was reported to be about 400. To-day this is known to be lamentably below the mark. In one little town alone, Martirano, more than 2,000 persons were killed and injured. Martirano itself is wiped out.

The precise nature of the seismic disturbance has not yet been ascertained. Many details are lacking for a scientific explanation, but it is observed that for a week before the earthquake Stromboli had been in violent eruption and Vesuvius was active.

The impression caused by the direful event has been immense throughout Italy. The first to demonstrate his sympathy was the King, who gave 100,000 lire for the relief of the sufferers. The principal towns of the Kingdom are vying with each other in opening subscriptions and the banks and great newspapers are following their example.

Persons arriving from Calabria describe the awful impression received by seeing the desolation. They are unanimous in stating that the losses are heavier than were at first reported. When the work of rescuing victims from the ruined houses was going on the people seemed to be mad from grief and horror.

The Pope has wired all the Bishops in Calabria and Sicily exhorting them to give all kinds of assistance, material, religious and financial. It is now known that in and about Catanzaro there are some hundred thousand homeless people. The damage suffered at Monteleone was greater than in Calabria, Calabria, Sept. 10.—Signor Ferraris, Minister of Public Works, who is making a tour of the area devastated by the earthquakes, arrived here yesterday and spent the night in a railway carriage. The population along his route explained their wants to the Minister, who gave orders for the despatch of doctors, medical stores and money to alleviate their sufferings.

The disaster has been enormous. The same still prevails. Slight shocks, which are occasionally felt, cause indescribable terror. The victims in the province, so far as ascertained at present, were 450 killed and 1,000 injured.

Rome, Sept. 10.—The Kaiser and President Loubet have sent messages to King Victor Emmanuel expressing sincere sympathy with the victims of the earthquake. The French and Turkish Chambers d'Affaires have extended their condolences. The Cabinet met to-day and decided to devote 250,000 lire for the relief of the victims. Several of the Ministers followed the example of the Premier and decided to contribute to the national fund the sum of 25,000 lire between them. The Navigazione Generale Italiana has contributed 10,000 lire.

MILAN, Sept. 10.—Telegrams received here show that the disaster is even greater than was thought. The shock at Nicotera was terrible. Few escaped. None of the houses has yet been recovered. At Monteleone the work of taking out the dead is slow, owing to lack of means. At Palmi 300 houses collapsed. Only two churches are standing.

At Stefaconi all the houses are ruined. Dead and injured are lying in the piazzas. The scenes are heartrending. Coffins cannot be obtained and the dead will be buried in a common grave.

SANTA CRISTINA, Calabria, Sept. 10.—While the train bearing the Minister of Public Works, a large staff of doctors and soldiers and engineers arrived at Armentia a crowd of women and children came up carrying three statues of the Holy Virgin, crying: "We have no homes. We have no churches."

As the train steamed cautiously southward, the cries of the poor people, without food or shelter, and bordering on a state of dementia, were dreadful to hear. A crowd of crazed peasants rushed along the side of the train crying for bread, for tents to shelter them and for help to bury their dead.

The same story of ruined homes was heard everywhere, scarcely a house in the interior of the peninsula having been left standing. The train reached Brindisi at night, and in the moonlight the country seemed to be dotted with huts hastily erected.

The village of Paighella had completely disappeared, hearing yesterday that a train laden with provisions would pass on the way to Monte Leone, besieged the line all day in order to prevent the train from proceeding further. Signor Ferraris left doctors and provisions here and proceeded to Tropea, where he will pass the night.

PARISIAN FASHIONS HERE. Dressmakers Make No Effort to Dodge the Customs Collectors. Thirty dressmakers who arrived yesterday from Havre aboard the French liner La Bretagne brought with them specimen gowns of the Parisian fall styles.

There was no effort on the part of any of them, as there has been occasionally in the past, to conceal any dress goods. All declared to Deputy Collector Williams' staff as the liner came up the bay exactly what they had that was dutiable. The appraisers on the pier put a value on the goods and the dressmakers paid the duty cheerfully.

25 HOURS TO CHICAGO—PENNSYLVANIA. Leaves New York daily at 3:30 P. M. 900 miles of rock-balled, double track. The train without an equal—4-6-4.

FAMINE IN STRICKEN BAKU.

Homeless Families Starving—Tatars Defy the Troops.

Special Cable Despatches to THE SUN. TIFLIS, Sept. 10.—The Governor of Baku reports that there was firing there last night and to-day, though on a smaller scale than heretofore. A few persons were killed and wounded. The troops and police are engaged in preventing incendiarism and pillaging. Workmen are leaving Baku in hundreds.

The director of the Technological Institute at Baku has sent a message to Tiflis, which begins: "We are starving and dying." The communication adds that many refugees are taking shelter in the institute, and implores that necessities for existence be sent. The working people are homeless and are without even bread or water.

The worst news to-day is from the Zangazursk district, where many Armenian villages have been completely destroyed and hundreds killed. Help is slow in arriving owing to the distance of the scene of the fighting from the centers where there are troops.

The whole Tatar population has risen and has been joined by 4,000 armed Kurds from the Persian bank of the Arax. The Viceroy has made urgent representations to the Persian authorities.

Moscow, Sept. 10.—According to reports received here the so-called White Town, the fashionable quarter of Baku, will share the fate of the Black Town, or factory district. If there is the least further delay in the arrival of strong reinforcements. The Tatars are showing fanatical contempt of death. They are in such numbers that they outmatch the troops in spite of the latter's superiority in arms. Acts of unmentionable barbarity have been committed.

Baku, Sept. 10.—The Governor-General of the Caucasus has telegraphed to Gen. Shirinkin, commanding the troops at Bala-khan, eight miles from this city, to strengthen the guards at all the banks and credit establishments in view of threatened attacks by Tatars.

LONDON, Sept. 11.—The Standard says that as a result of the disorders at Baku the users of oil in St. Petersburg are circulating inquiries in Northumberland and Durham for large quantities of steam coal. At least 100,000 tons are required for.

The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Times says that the destruction of the oil industry seems to be complete. Official returns are lacking, but it is trustworthy computed that 3,000 out of 3,600 wells are ruined. It will take about a year before work can be resumed.

A despatch from Shusha, dated Sept. 6, says: "I reached Shusha with difficulty Monday morning. The Armenian commercial quarter is a mass of smoking ruins. Whole streets have been destroyed. The killed in round figures number 250."

The town is now quiet. Two companies of Cossacks arrived Monday and 600 infantry to-day. Tatar and Armenian armed patrols parade the streets at night.

ST. PETERSBURG, Sept. 10.—The four Englishmen who were cut off at Bala-khan have been rescued by the British Vice-Consul with a small escort of cavalry lent to him by the Governor.

BARON KOMURA ILL.

He is Suffering From Stomach Trouble—Engagements Cancelled.

Baron Komura, a senior Japanese peace envoy, who reported yesterday to be ill in his apartment at the Waldorf-Astoria. The illness is not believed to be serious, but the Baron and the members of his staff consider it of such consequence as to necessitate canceling all engagements made for the Baron prior to the time of his departure for Seattle. That date is next Thursday and it was said last night the date will not be changed unless something entirely unexpected develops.

The first intelligence of the Baron's illness was disseminated by Mr. Sato at the Waldorf last evening.

"The Baron," he said, "was taken suddenly ill on his arrival at the hotel, at 6 o'clock last evening, from Oyster Bay. Dr. William B. Pritchard of 105 West Seventy-third street was summoned at once. He told us that he found the Baron suffering from intestinal trouble and under a very high fever. Dr. Pritchard said to-day that the Baron was not to be considered seriously ill, but that it was absolutely necessary that he have rest and quiet for several days."

Acting on the physician's advice, Mr. Sato said the Baron had word sent to Gen. Stewart L. Woodford that he would be unable to attend a dinner which the General was to have given in his honor at his home in Brooklyn. A similar notice was sent to Gen. Frederick D. Grant, who had planned to receive the Baron on Governors Island to-day. All other dinners and receptions, Mr. Sato said, had been called off. The Baron, he concluded, will remain in the hotel until Thursday, the day set for his departure for Seattle, and will appear at no more affairs in his honor in this country.

Dr. Pritchard said last night that the Baron's illness was due to a cold contracted while automobiling four or five days ago. He was not in good health when he went to Oyster Bay. The intestinal trouble, the doctor said, consisted of acute indigestion. He did not consider the illness at all serious, but had recommended absolute quiet simply for safety.

TAKEN DYING FROM A CAR.

Stranger With Only a Ring Incribed "F. A. to J. P." to Identify Him.

As a Brighton and Gates avenue car was turning from Malbone street into the Brighton Beach out at Prospect Park, Brooklyn, yesterday afternoon a passenger groaned and fell back in his seat. He was helped off the car into a house near by. The man was speechless and helpless.

Dr. Cameron Duncan of Flatbush and Dr. Schloss of the Kings County Hospital were sent for and they labored half an hour to revive the man, but he died. He was about 45 years old, of medium height and build and had light hair and complexion. He wore a ring set with three small diamonds. The ring was inscribed, "F. A. to J. P."

CZAR MAKES PEACE WITH US.

CALLS OFF THE TARIFF WAR ON AMERICAN PRODUCTS.

Witte Conveyed the Message to Roosevelt—Trouble Started When Countervailing Duties Were Imposed on Russian Sugar—Russia Put Extra Duties on Our Steel.

OSTEN BAY, N. Y., Sept. 10.—President Roosevelt to-day made public a communication from the Czar, laid before him by Mr. Witte last night, which is of great political as well as economic significance to both Russia and America.

The communication, which explains itself, is as follows: "Some years ago, in consequence of a misunderstanding in the interpretation of the most favored nation clause, there were established in Russia on several articles of American production custom duties on a higher scale than those levied on the same articles when imported from other countries."

"His Majesty, the Emperor of Russia, has commanded me to inform the President of the United States that he has been pleased to order the discontinuance of the levying of such higher duties on American products in order that henceforth the American manufacturers should pay the same duties as importers from other countries."

The presentation of this communication by Mr. Witte just before leaving the President's home is a masterpiece of true Witte diplomacy. It is considered certain that he suggested this act on the part of the Czar. He was Minister of Finance when the tariff war started and was responsible for the extra duties levied on American goods.

The Czar's aim in now removing those duties is believed to be twofold: First—The act is in the nature of thanks to the President and to America for this country's share in the peace negotiations. Second—It is a strong bid for a new lease of life to the friendship between the United States and Russia.

On board the Mayflower on Aug. 5 Mr. Witte told THE SUN representative that he hoped the United States and Russia would become better friends than they have been in recent years.

As a first step Mr. Witte undid last night what he himself did on Feb. 15, 1897, when he was still Minister of Finance. On that day he increased by 30 per cent. the import duties on American steel and iron products, exclusive of agricultural implements, of which Russia stood in great need. According to our Treasury Department only about \$9,000,000 of imports were affected by this, but manufacturers at that time were much alarmed.

The action of Witte was a retaliatory measure. Our Secretary of the Treasury, in obedience to the provisions of the Dingley tariff law of 1897, had imposed countervailing duties on Russian sugar because of the bounties paid to exporters.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 10.—Just as he was leaving Washington this evening Mr. Witte confirmed the statement that the Czar had ordered the abolition of retaliatory duties on certain American products. Through one of the members of his suite Mr. Witte said that the reduction applied to machinery with the exception of agricultural machinery. He had himself arranged the matter with the Czar before coming to the United States, Mr. Witte explained.

FISHING LAUNCH BLOWS UP.

Seventeen Men in Peril and Two Severely Burned by Gasoline.

NEW LONDON, Conn., Sept. 10.—An explosion aboard the gasoline launch Wanderer this morning burned thirteen of the seventeen men who had come from Norwich and who were fishing from the craft in Fishers' Island Sound.

Capt. Manuel Leion, owner of the Wanderer, went into the cabin to start the motor. William Shannon sat close by. As Leion gave the balance wheel a turn the explosion took place and a sheet of flame set the boat on fire.

Aboard the launch besides the captain and Shannon, who were badly burned, were John Murphy, Frank Mahoney, Herman Crocker, Ralph B. Patrick, John Tracy, Joseph Heffernan, Frank Crohn, Henry Kilroy, Ernest Freeman, John Barry, William Crocker, Elmer Kingsley, Joseph Shannon, Henry Fenton and Charles Bar-rience. All these men except Crocker, Freeman, Tracy and Joseph Shannon, either jumped or were swept into the Sound and were picked up by other fishing launches.

The four men who were astern rescued. Capt. Leion and Shannon from the cabin. They were severely burned. The four men also managed to extinguish the flames by the use of buckets. Capt. Leion, William Shannon and Heffernan went to the Memorial Hospital.

CHAS. P. TAFT FOR THE SENATE.

Secretary Taft's Brother Said to Be a Candidate to Succeed Senator Foraker.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 10.—A story comes from Ohio that Charles P. Taft, proprietor of the Times-Star, one time Congressman from a Cincinnati district and brother of Secretary William H. Taft, is to be a candidate for the United States Senate to succeed Senator Foraker. George B. Cox has no ambition to enter the struggle, but the story is being widely spread.

Some time ago the Times-Star declared for Foraker for President, naming him as Ohio's favorite son. This created comment at the time, in view of the popular talk about Editor Taft's brother, the Secretary of War, for the Presidency. In Cincinnati the notion prevails that William H. Taft will go upon the United States Supreme bench at the proper time. Foraker will be groomed for the Presidency and Charles Taft may realize his ambition for a seat in the United States Senate.

Even if the Foraker Presidential boom fails to materialize, Charles P. Taft may fall heir to the Herriek-Cox-Dick support for United States Senator.

FIXING UP AN ARMISTICE.

Oyama Sends Letter to Linievitch—Soldiers Drink to Roosevelt.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN. ST. PETERSBURG, Sept. 10.—A telegram sent from Godesladan yesterday says: "At 1 o'clock this afternoon a Japanese parliamentary, with a white flag and an escort of fifty troops, arrived at our post near the railway. The parliamentary handed the Russian officers who met him a letter from Field Marshal Oyama to Gen. Linievitch, in which Oyama congratulated Linievitch upon the conclusion of peace and begged him to appoint plenipotentiaries to settle the questions for the arrangement of an armistice. Oyama appointed Gen. Fukushima as the Japanese plenipotentiary, and suggested Chakhedza as the meeting place."

GUNTZULING, Sept. 9 (Delayed).—The Emperor's acceptance of peace was published in the Army Messenger on Sept. 6. It produced a heavy sense of military decorum among the officers, while the soldiers to-day in many places, with the consent and sympathy of their officers and thanks to their generosity, are feasting and celebrating the cessation of hostilities.

Since the appointment of peace plenipotentiaries thousands have daily drunk the health of President Roosevelt. The army, indeed, has devoted itself to wholeheartedly glorifying Roosevelt.

ACCEPTS ROOSEVELT'S REFUSAL.

German Press Says There Will Be Further Bargaining for Trade Treaty.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN. BERLIN, Sept. 10.—The German semi-official press argues that there is no occasion for alarm at the determined tone of President Roosevelt's refusal to accept the initial proposals of the German Ambassador for a commercial treaty with the United States. The National Zeitung frankly describes the President's answer as quite natural, and says that the process of bargaining will be continued by both sides.

HELD ON TO HIS LITTLE ONE.

Johnson's Right Arm Was Crushed by Wheel, but He Saved Daughter With Left.

Frederick Johnson, a carpenter employed at the Payne Whitney place at Manhasset, started for this city on Saturday night with his four-year-old daughter, Esther. As the train he intended to take pulled out of the Great Neck depot he tried to jump aboard. Another train was approaching from the westward. He slipped and fell, and his right arm, outstretched, was crushed under the wheels. He held his child close to him with the left arm and saved her from rolling under the wheels of the east-bound train. He was taken to the Flushing Hospital and the crushed arm was amputated.

FAIRBANKS IN THE PULPIT.

Delivers an Address on Prayer at Valley Forge Memorial Chapel.

NORRISTOWN, Pa., Sept. 10.—Vice-President Fairbanks, while visiting Valley Forge to-day with Congressman Butler and Prof. Phillips, with whom he came over in an automobile from West Chester, was invited by the Rev. Herbert Burk to make an address in Washington Memorial Episcopal Church.

He took for his theme the value of prayer, and pointed to the recognition of its efficacy by Washington, by Lincoln and by McKinley during the wars of their times. He said that this is distinctly a Christian nation and it is appropriate that a memorial chapel should be erected on this sacred spot.

It was the Vice-President's first visit to the historic camp ground.

CABBAGE PATCH NATIONAL BANK.

Author of Popular Novel Makes Her Debut in Financial Circles.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Sept. 10.—Mrs. Alice Hegan Rice, author of "Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch," has made her debut in the commercial world by organizing here a national bank with a capital stock of \$250,000. Associated with her is her husband, Ole Young Rice, W. O. Head and L. M. Rice.

It is expected the details of the organization will be completed this week. What position Mrs. Rice will hold in the new financial concern has not been decided, though it is said that she will have some responsible post.

WOMAN "SNAPS" A HIGHWAYMAN.

Schoolma'am Induces Road Agent to Pose After He'd Cleaned Out a Stage.

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 10.—Miss Anna and Miss Mary Wilkinson, school teachers here, bear the distinction of being the only women who ever snapped a real live highwayman in action.

"We were traveling near Mariposa Grove, Cal.," said Miss Anna, "when there came the stern command to halt. The stage coach halted and out of the bushes came a highwayman. He cleaned us all out except for \$200 my sister hid from him."

"He was a nice robber and rather gentle, and as he was finishing I asked him to please let me take a snapshot of him."

"Sure," he said, "but maybe you've got a gun in that box."

"No," said I, "only films." So he covered me with his .44 Colt and backed away, and I snapped him. It's a perfectly lovely picture," said Miss Wilkinson, producing the photograph.

GIRLS FALL FROM ROWBOAT.

Morgue Keeper and Ambulance Driver Plunge to the Rescue.

Two men and two girls tried to land from a rowboat at the foot of East 120th street yesterday afternoon. The men succeeded, but the girls fell into the river. Mary Spellman, keeper of the Harlem Morgue, and Thomas Murray, driver of the Harlem Hospital ambulance, jumped in and kept the girls' heads above water until Dr. Berliner and Dinick came from the hospital with ropes and rescued the four.

The girls, Rose Roudman, 18, of 305 East 86th street, and Bertha Smith, 19, of 1321 Second avenue, were revived at the hospital. Their escorts disappeared in the excitement.

NOTHING QUITE EQUALS IT. The Twentieth Century Limited, the 18-hour train between New York and Chicago by the New York Central Lines, leaves New York 3:30 P. M. and arrives Chicago 1:30 next morning—a night's ride.

THE ENVOYS IN WASHINGTON.

THEY SPEND TEN HOURS IN AND ABOUT THE CAPITAL.

Mr. Witte Very Much Impressed by His Visit to Mount Vernon and the Scenes of Washington's Life—The Party Go on a Sightseeing Tour in Automobiles.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 10.—Mr. Witte and Baron Rosen, the Russian peace envoys, spent ten hours in Washington and its vicinity to-day and had the best time that has fallen to their lot since they have been in America. It was a sort of hurdy-gurdy experience, but full of pleasant incidents. Mr. Witte summed it up in this way, just as he and the members of his party were leaving for New York:

"I had a high opinion of Americans before I came to this country, but now that I have visited the scenes of Gen. Washington's life that opinion has been intensified to a high degree. The nation which honors the memories of its great citizens as America does is a great nation. I have been much impressed by everything I have seen in and around the place where lived and worked Washington. There is something sacred about the district. Had I come from Russia for the sole purpose of seeing Mount Vernon I would have been amply repaid."

The two envoys reached Washington at 7:30 this morning. They were very tired, for they had gone to bed late and got up early. With them were Mr. Planchon and Mr. Korostovitz, representatives of the St. Petersburg Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Mr. Chappoff of the Ministry of Finance; Mr. Welenkin, the financial attaché of the Russian Embassy in Washington, who acted as Mr. Witte's personal secretary at Portsmouth, and Dr. E. E. Dillon, a noted scholar and the St. Petersburg correspondent of the London Daily Telegraph.

Francis B. Loomis, Acting Secretary of State, who was accompanied by Major Charles L. McCawley of the Marine Corps as aide, met the Russians at the Pennsylvania Railroad station and escorted them to the Arlington Hotel, where breakfast was served. At 9 o'clock Mr. Witte and Baron Rosen were ready for their sightseeing tour, and they started out in automobiles with the rest of their party and Mr. Loomis and Major McCawley.

The first stop was at the Russian Embassy, near Scott Circle, where Baron Rosen will take up his residence as the Czar's Ambassador. This big house was occupied by Levi P. Morton when he was Vice-President, and is still owned by him. The main object of the visit to the embassy was to show Mr. Witte that it was not quite fit enough for the official home of the personal representative of the Czar, and it is expected that he will have something to say on this subject when he sees the Czar, which will secure for the Russian Ambassadors a new home of their own far more spacious and elegant than the Morton house.

From the embassy the envoys and those with them were taken over into Virginia to the National Cemetery at Arlington, to the former home of Gen. Robert E. Lee, and from there to Fort Myer. Then back again at a clipping pace through Georgetown, with the first stop at the White House. By special permission the Russians were shown every nook and corner of the President's residence, and when the inspection was over the autos whirled them around the Washington Monument and through the Mall to the Capitol, where Mr. Witte and his companions saw the chambers of the Senate and the House, the Supreme Court room and the big rotunda under the dome.

Mr. Witte was greatly impressed with the Capitol, but he did not become enthusiastic until he was taken across the plaza to the magnificent building of the Library of Congress.

"How much did it cost?" was one of his first questions, and when he was told that the total was \$60,000,000 he expressed surprise, which was echoed by the members of his suite.

"It seems incredible that it should have been built so cheaply," said one of the Russians.

Mr. Witte was much interested in the book shelves and wanted to know all about the system of keeping track of the thousands of volumes. He was interested also in the "trolleys" used in sending books to and from the great reading room. Mr. Witte lingered long in the library and had to be reminded that there were more things of interest planned for the day.

It was early noon when the Russians reached the Washington Navy Yard. There the United States yacht Siren was waiting to take them to Mount Vernon, where Washington lived and died and where his remains are laid away. The Siren came to Washington on short notice. It reached Norfolk at noon yesterday from a cruise, and immediately afterward got orders over the long distance telephone to come to Washington immediately. Her commander, Lieut. Z. R. Madison, and get her crew and passengers to the city. She was at once and was off for Washington within the hour. The Siren reached here this morning.

The Mount Vernon trip was the event of the day and everybody who went along had a good time. There was no formality about this visit to the American shrine, or in fact about the stay of the Russian envoys in the capital. Everything was informal, including the matter of clothes. Mr. Witte wore a black cutaway coat, trousers of light color, and a low crowned black derby. Baron Rosen had on a natty looking light suit and a cream colored fedora hat. Mr. Loomis, the representative of the United States, wore clothes that were much becheeked. The two members of the party who had brought along frock coats and top hats wished that they had not. Major McCawley wore his dress uniform, with side arms, but that was not his fault, as he had been officially detailed for the occasion and was obliged to follow regulations.

The Siren got off promptly at noon and half an hour later luncheon was served on deck. In addition to the Russians and Mr. Loomis and Major McCawley, there were aboard Charles Darling, Acting Secretary of the Navy; Robert Shaw Oliver, Acting Secretary of War; A. A. Adee, Second Assistant Secretary of State; Brig-Gen. George F. Elliott, commander of the Marine Corps; James H. Garfield, Commissioner of Corporations; Capt. William P. Potter, Acting Chief of the Naval Bureau of Navigation, who arranged the Mount Vernon trip; Lieutenant Commander Frank E. Peatty and Lieut. Robert W. McNeely of the Washington Navy Yard and William A. Newcome, private secretary of Mr. Loomis. Luncheon was just about over when the

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